GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EARTH SCIENCES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:886
ANSWERED ON:17.08.2007
SINKING OF LAND
Surendran Shri Chengara

Will the Minister of EARTH SCIENCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government is aware of the phenomenon of frequent sinking of land in Idukki District, Kerala;

(b) if so, whether the Government has conducted any study to find out the scientific reason; and

(c) if not, whether the Government proposes to send experts to Kerala to study the phenomenon?

Answer

MINISTER OF SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY AND MINISTER OF EARTH SCIENCES (KAPIL SIBAL)

(a) The Centre for Earth Science Studies(CESS), a Government of Kerala`s technical unit, has found that about 10ha of land had subsided 10-12meters down slope in Kaduvathode area of Mankulam Forest Division. The phenomenon has been noticed since October, 2005.

(b) Preliminary evaluation indicates that these events are in the initial stages of landslide, taken place along deeply inclined plains. A team of scientists from CESS will be visiting that area again for detailed investigations in another week`s time.

(c) Does not arise.